

THE MESSENGER

OCTOBER 2016

THE MISSION OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI ANGLICAN CHURCH IS TO PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION IN JESUS CHRIST THROUGH SERIOUS DISCIPLESHIP, SACRED WORSHIP AND SELFLESS SERVICE

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The Friars Quill

The Challenge of the San Damiano Cross: A Reflection on St. Francis' Day



As the Anglican Church of St. Francis of Assisi, the message of San Damiano Cross has a double challenge. We have heard often enough the story of the San Damiano Cross.

St. Francis' historian Thomas of Celano tells the whole story:

“Francis was walking one day by the church of San Damiano, which was abandoned by everyone and almost in ruins. He went in to pray and knelt down devoutly before the crucifix. (At that time, only parish Churches can have a tabernacle for the reserved sacrament; Chapels, like san Damiano, had crucifixes instead. It was originally displayed in the Church of San Damiano which was the first church rebuilt by St. Francis. It is currently on display in the Basilica of St. Clare in Assisi.) Francis was shaken by unusual experience ...something unheard of in previous ages: with the lips of the painting, the image of Christ crucified spoke to him. ‘Francis,’ it said, calling him by name, ‘go rebuild My church; as you see, it is all falling into ruins.’ Francis was more than a little stunned, trembling, and stuttering like a man out of his senses. He prepared himself to obey and pulled himself together to carry out the command.”

At first he interpreted his experience in a literal manner, doing all he could to provide the means, with stones and mortar, to rebuild the physical structure of San Damiano, which actually was in ruins.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| The Friars Quill | 1 |
| The Deacon's Corner | 2 |
| Sacred Worship | 4 |
| Serious Discipleship | 5 |
| Selfless Service | 6 |
| Calendar | 7 |

Although this may have been part of the intent of the revelation, Francis quickly realized that the rebuilding process had to include the rebuilding of his person, of families and of Church as a community.”

This is a most appropriate reminder to all of us at this time in our life as a Church of St. Francis. On this feast of St. Francis, the San Damiano Cross is speaking to us in these similar words: *“My children of SFAC, go rebuild my Church, as you see, it is all falling into ruins.”*

Yes, this message has a double challenge:

- (1) the challenge of building the physical Church of St. Francis;
- (2) the challenge of building up of ourselves as the Church community of St. Francis. Let us always remember challenge as our double calling.

The first challenge of the Cross of San Damiano, is the “building of the physical Church of St. Francis”. This is entrusted to two Ad Hoc Committees.

One is the Building Fund Ad Hoc Committee will count the cost, like the Gospel parable where Jesus teaches, “before you build a house, count the cost...”

The other. The Building Ad Hoc Committee will inspect and assess the location, environment and condition of an available Church building.

The second challenge of the Cross of San Damiano, the building of the Church as the community of faith, continues to be entrusted to persons we elected to the Bishop's Committee. Together with the ordained and lay staff, this Committee holds before our eyes always and leads us by word and example the building up of our spiritual life by the realization of our mission and ministry, namely:

Serious discipleship,

Sacred Worship (& Fellowship),

Selfless Service.

May the Cross of San Damiano not only remind us of our double calling at this time, but also become our inspiration and strength.

Fr. Woodrow Gubuan



Shalom,

Bok-er Tov, which is Hebrew for good morning. I had a wonderful time in Israel. From Galilee in the north to Bethlehem in the south. We visited Capernaum where we saw Peter's mother-in-Laws house where Jesus stayed. Walked on the mount of the beatitudes, where there is a natural amphitheater with the Sea of Galilee would have been at Jesus back and would help carry his voice for the multitudes to hear. I got to walk the actual Stations of the Cross in Jerusalem known as the Via Dolorosa. It was actually very narrow and much like in Jesus' time there are merchants along the way and can get crowded.

There are 2 places that are thought to be the Crucifixion and burial of Jesus; but my thought is that one is where he was crucified and the other where he was buried, either way it was close to where he actually was. That is the case with most sights, there are very close in proximity but as to the exact spot no one can know for sure.

We went to Bethlehem where Jesus was born and saw the manger where he was laid and the entrance where they entered.

I was on the Mount of Olives and saw the church of St. Stephen the first deacon and martyr. We also entered old Jerusalem through the gate of St. Stephen where he was stoned. As we entered we went to the church of St. Anne where it is said that when you sing the angels join in and wow it does! It is not just an echo, it reverberates from the ceiling but seems to deepen so there is the sound from those singing from the floor with a deepening that seems to come from above making it sounds like angels join in, very cool. I got to float in the Dead Sea, yes that is float, not swim.

There was a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, where Jesus walked, and calmed the Sea. As we were on the boat our guide asked us to stand up and turn around and to put our left hand at Nazareth and our right hand where the Jordan flowed into the sea. In between was where 80% of Jesus' ministry was! Which was around the north end of the Sea of Galilee.

This trip has strengthened my faith. It has also made it clear that what Jesus meant when he said follow me that we are to get up walk out into the world and preach the Gospel that he was there to proclaim. We cannot do this by setting in the pews. In order to walk we must put one foot in front of the other. Our mission statement is not only one for ourselves but is best effective if that mission is shown and worked out in the world.

The light we see and receive from Jesus is not just for us but shines the best if we take it out into the world. Just because we are not part of the world doesn't mean that we do not go out into the world. In fact we are to be in the world to show that Jesus is Lord of Lords and King of Kings. Who died for the salvation of the world if they would only repent and receive him as their savior. So I wish to thank you for sending me on this pilgrimage. And would like to leave you with another Hebrew word

Lei-lah Tov, which means good night.

May the Peace of the Lord be always with You!

Deacon Jeff Stugelmeyer



Jeff's Trip to the Holy Land



Sacred Worship



Sundays

9:30am St Francis of Assisi
Fellowship Hall

2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the Month

2pm O'Connor Woods Chapel
3400 Wagner Heights Rd, Stockton



**August Altar Flowers were given to the
Glory of God by**

Rachel Allanigue in celebration of the
birthdays of Maricris, Maricar and Edith
Kim Combs in memory of her mom, Darlene
Jeff Stuglemeyer in memory of his mom,
Dorothea

Please Join us for the Annual
Visit of Our Bishop



on

October 4th

at

6:30pm

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For Holy Eucharist and
Reception of those who
recommitted themselves to Christ
at Easter



Choir: Upcoming Rehearsals:
October 2 - 8:30am

Coffee Hour Hosts: Sign up on calendar
behind food table

Bishop's Committee Meeting: Sunday,
October 23rd - 11am after the Service

Altar Guild: Tues, October 18th at 10am

Daughters of the King: Sat, Oct 8th at 10am

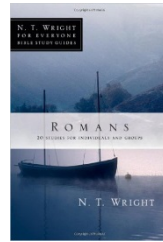
Other Ministry Opportunities

- Acolyte
- Lector
- Prayer Team
- Collection Counter
- Hospitality
- Usher
- Flowers
- Homebound Ministry
- Senior Ministry

Serious Discipleship

Child Care is Available each Sunday from 8:30am.

Please see an Usher for location.



Bill Aaron is leading us on Paul's writings to the Romans using the Study Guide by N.T. Wright's Romans at 8:30am on Sundays.



October 2nd

Habakkuk 1:1-13; 2:1-4

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Luke 17:5-10

Psalm 37:1-18

October 9th

Ruth 1:1-19a

2 Timothy 2:3-15

Luke 7:11-19

Psalm 113

October 16th

Genesis 32:3-8, 22-30

2 Timothy 3:14—4:5

Luke 18:1-8a

Psalm 121

October 23rd

Jeremiah 14:1-10, 19-22

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Luke 18:9-14

Psalm 84

October 30th

Isaiah 1:10-20

2 Thessalonians 1:1-12

Luke 19:1-10

Psalm 32

St Francis uses Flocknote to send emails to our parishioners with notices and information.

If you do not receive these notices, we do not have your email. Please put it in the offering plate with your name, give it to Kim or call the church office 565-0648



Then watch your emails!!!



Our Diocese of San Joaquin Website:
<http://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/>

Diocesan Newsletter:
<http://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/san-joaquin-anglican.html>

1 Corinthians 3:9

For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.

Galatians 6:10

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to the family of faith.

1 Timothy 3:15

so that, if I am delayed, you will know how each one must conduct himself in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

Selfless Service



St Francis Church extends the body of Christ to our homebound by sending cards each month. They are available for you to sign on the table as you come in the door. Take a moment and sign them each week. They are so grateful and feel a part of the parish of St Francis with this simple gesture.



Love Stockton – September 24th



October

- 1st Diane Stauffer
- 2nd JR Rosal
- 3rd Elinore Ceballos
Jim Sanborn
- 5th Alberta Thompson
Michael Alcon
- 9th Jennifer Nailes
Randy Hamilton
- 10th Mike Griffin
Honey Rosal
Chiara Melchor
- 11th Willmarieann Gaa
- 16th John Felix Gubuan
- 22nd Nancy Blaylock
Isabella Rosal
- 30th Victoria Dato



October

- 10th Mr & Mrs Ernest Nailes
- 21st Mr & Mrs Robert Foy



Bill & Jessica Aaron, Dcn Jeff Stugelmeyer, Kim & Mike Combs and Lorraine Hitchcock. We went to 4 sites and prayed and handed out water! A wonderful day.

| October 2016 | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 22 9:30am Holy Eucharist | 3 | 4 St Francis of Assisi Annual Visit of our Bishop - 6:30pm Service | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 DOK Meeting 10am |
| 9 Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 23 9:30am Holy Eucharist | 10 | 11 | 12 O'Connor Woods - 2pm | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 Twenty Second Sun after Pentecost - Proper 24 9:30am Holy Eucharist | 17 | 18 St Luke, Evangelist Altar Guild Meeting 10am | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 Twenty Third Sun aft Pentecost - Proper 25 9:30am Holy Eucharist Bishop's Committee Meeting | 24 St James of Jerusalem(trans) | 25 | 26 O'Connor Woods - 2pm | 27 | 28 St Simon & St Jude, Apostles | 29 |
| 30 Twenty Fourth Sun aft Pentecost - Proper 26 9:30am Holy Eucharist Friendship Sunday Potluck | 31 | | | | | |



Friendship Sunday & Pot Luck

Sunday, October 30th

Bring a friend & a favorite dish to share!!

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The Messenger

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'18 Jim Telander, Rachel Allanigue

Prayer of St Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek to be
consoled as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to Eternal
Life. Amen



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